

Message Text

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ACTION AF-08

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 AID-05 TRSY-02 CIAE-00
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FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 6989

INFO AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY KIGALI

AMEMBASSY BUJUMBURA

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAID, XJ, GW

SUBJECT: FRG AID TO CENTRAL AFRICA

REF: (A) BONN 5098, (B) 76 BONN 10043

1. FRG AID COMMITMENT PLANS FOR 1977 ARE NOW WELL ESTABLISHED FOR CENTRAL AFRICA. THE FRG GROUPS ZAIRE, RWANDA, BURUNDI, ANGOLA, CENTRAL AFRICAN EMPIRES, CONGO-BRAZZAVILLE, GABON, AND SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE TOGETHER IN ONE DIVISION OF THE ECONCOOPMIN. OF THESE, THE PRIORITY COUNTRIES FOR THE FRG ARE RWANDA, BURUNDI, AND ZAIRE.

2. FRG AID PROGRAM FOR THESE THREE COUNTRIES HAS NOW TAKEN ON A TWO YEAR CYCLE WHICH PERMITS THE CONCENTRATION OF AID COMMITMENTS IN LARGER QUANTITIES. IN 1976 THE FRG COMMITTED DM 90 MILLION TO ZAIRE WHILE THIS

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YEAR THAT COUNTRY WILL RECEIVE NO NEW COMMITMENT. IN 1977 THE FRG WILL COMMIT APPROXIMATELY DM 48 MILLION TO RWANDA AND DM 32 MILLION TO BURUNDI. IN 1978 ZAIRE CAN AGAIN EXPECT A MAJOR AID COMMITMENT TO BE FOLLOWED BY RWANDA AND BURUNDI IN 1979.

3. TOTAL 1977 NEW COMMITMENTS FOR CENTRAL AFRICA WILL

BE DM 90 MILLION, OF WHICH DM 80 MILLION IS FOR RWANDA AND BURUNDI AND DM 10 MILLION FOR THE OTHER COUNTRIES IN THE AREA. NO AID IS CONTEMPLATED FOR ANGOLA.

4. IN CONVERSATION WITH COOPMIN OFFICE DIRECTOR (EHM) THE INTRACTABLE PROBLEMS OF ZAIRE WERE DISCUSSED (REF B). THE FRG TRIED TO FIND WAYS LAST YEAR TO TAILOR ITS AID TO ZAIRE SO THAT THE EFFECTS COULD BE FELT AS QUICKLY AS POSSIBLE. FRG WOULD NOT CONSIDER, HOWEVER, GENERALIZED COMMODITY AID AND ATTEMPTED TO WORK OUT WITH ZAIRE A SHORT LIST OF COMMODITIES CREATING ECONOMIC BOTTLENECKS. THIS EFFORT PROVED TO BE FRUITLESS, HOWEVER, DUE TO THE POOR STATE OF LOCAL STATISTICS AND DOCUMENTATION. EHM CONCLUDED THAT, IF ZAIRE'S ECONOMIC SITUATION DETERIORATES DRAMATICALLY AS A RESULT OF RECENT PROBLEMS IN SHABA, FRG, AND PRESUMABLY OTHER DONORS, WOULD FIND IT DIFFICULT TO PROVIDE EFFECTIVE EMERGENCY SUPPORTING ASSISTANCE. STOESEL

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